

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /043 W
-----107702 151019Z /13

R 150915Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8540
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1306

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PROP PINS LA VM
SUBJECT: LAO PEOPLE TOLD TO DEFEND LAO-VIETNAMESE "SPECIAL
RELATIONSHIP"

SUMMARY: LAO AUTHORITIES IN RECENT DAYS HAVE FOCUSED
THEIR PROPAGANDA ON SUPPORT FOR THE VIETNAMESE-LAO
"SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP", WARNING OF "IMPERIALIST SCHEMES"
TO DIVIDE THE LPDR AND SRV. THE LPRP DAILY "VOICE OF
THE PEOPLE" SEPTEMBER 12, 13, 14 CARRIED EDITORIALS ON
THIS THEME. LAO CITIZENS IN VIENTIANE HEARD A SIMILAR
LINE AT SEMINARS DURING THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 14.
END SUMMARY.

1. "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE" SEPTEMBER 12 CARRIED A
COMMENTARY ENTITLED "WHAT ARE THE TRICKS OF THE
IMPERIALISTS AND THEIR LACKIES TO DESTROY LAO-VIETNAMESE
SOLIDARITY?". THE COMMENTARY SAID IN PART: "THE
IMPERIALISTS AND THEIR LACKIES HAVE A POLICY TO DESTROY
LAO-VIETNAMESE SOLIDARITY, MAINTAINING THOUSANDS OF
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TRICKS TO DIVIDE UP OUR TWO COUNTRIES, ENCIRCLE THEM
SEPARATELY AND CONQUER OUR COUNTRIES....THEY WANT TO
SEPARATE LAOS FROM THE SOCIALIST CIRCLE (FROM VIET NAM
FIRST) AND TO ISOLATE LAOS. THEN IT IS EASY TO
DESTROY THE LAO REVOLUTION. AFTER THAT THEY WILL
THREATEN VIET NAM AND CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR THE VIETNAMESE
REVOLUTION. AFTER THEY HAVE DESTROYED THE SOLIDARITY

OF LAOS AND VIET NAM THEY WOULD CONQUER THE TWO COUNTRIES AND EASILY RULE OVER OTHER COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, ENCIRCLE AND ATTACK THE SOCIALIST CAMP. TO DESTROY LAO-VIETNAMESE SOLIDARITY IS THE GREAT STRATEGIC POLICY OF THE IMPERIALISTS AND THEIR TRAITORS."

2. "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE" SEPTEMBER 13 CARRIED A COMMENTARY ENTITLED "DOES VIET NAM REALLY INVADE LAOS", WHICH SAID IN PART: "IMPERIALISTS AND THEIR LACKIES... URGE OUR PEOPLE TO CONSIDER FRIENDS AS ENEMIES AND OPPOSE VIET NAM....THEY ACCUSE OUR LEADERS AND OFFICIALS OF HAVING A 'VIETNAMESE HEAD AND LAO BODY'. THEY INCITE GROUPS OF LAO PEOPLE TO FLEE TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND HELP REACTIONARIES LEFT BEHIND IN OUR COUNTRY TO RESIST THE REGIME." THE COMMENTARY CONTINUES: "THIS POLICY TO DIVIDE UP OUR TWO COUNTRIES IS NOT SUCCESSFUL EVEN THOUGH SOME OF US TEMPORARILY BELIEVE THEM. YOU SEE THAT FRENCH AND AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS AND THEIR LACKIES HAVE SPENT A LOT OF MONEY AIMING TO DESTROY OUR TWO COUNTRIES (CONTINUOUSLY) BUT OUR SPECIAL SOLIDARITY IS STRENGTHENED MORE AND MORE."

3. "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE" SEPTEMBER 14 CARRIED A COMMENTARY ENTITLED "HOW MUCH HAS LAO-VIETNAMESE SOLIDARITY BEEN IMPROVED IN THIS PERIOD?". THE COMMENTARY ALLEGES THAT THE VIETNAMESE "ALWAYS GAVE THEIR GREAT CONFIDENTIAL

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ASSISTANCE PROMPTLY AND WITHOUT DEMANDING REPAYMENT." IT CLAIMS THAT THE VIETNAMESE PERMITTED LAO USE OF DANANG PORT FACILITIES, HELPED IN CONSTRUCTION OF LAO ROADS LEADING TO VIETNAM, ASSISTED IN TRANSPORTATION OF GOODS THROUGH VIET NAM TO LAOS, AND TRAINED LAO OFFICIALS. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES: "FROM NOW ON, THE FATE TO OUR TWO COUNTRIES IS LINKED MORE FORMLY THAN EVER BEFORE."

4. AT SEMINAR DURING THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 14, LAO AUTHORITIES IN ARMY UNIFORM TOLD LOCAL CITIZENS THAT THE LAO PEOPLE MUST WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH THE PAVN IN DEFENDING LAOS AGAINST "REACTIONARIES."

5. COMMENT: THE LAO ARE SENSITIVE TO DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN CRITICISM WHICH ARGUES THAT THE LAO REVOLUTION IS CONTROLLED BY THE VIETNAMESE. THE RECENT SPATE OF PROPAGANDA IN DEFENSE OF THE "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP", HOWEVER, IS UNUSUAL AND MAY HAVE BEEN PROMPTED BY THE CURRENT VISIT OF AN LPLA DELEGATION LED BY DEFENSE MINISTER KHAMTAI SIPHANDONE TO HANOI. THE LAO MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN STUNG BY CRITICISM OF THE PREPONDERANT VIET-

NAMESE ROLE IN LAOS APPEARING IN THE WORLD PRESS SINCE
THE VIETNAMESE LEADERSHIP VISIT TO VIENTIANE IN JULY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROPAGANDA, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, TEXT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VIENTI01306
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770334-1249
Format: TEL
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770958/aaaabwsm.tel
Line Count: 119
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 56ed3245-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1252814
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LAO PEOPLE TOLD TO DEFEND LAO-VIENTNAMESE "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" SUMMARY: LAO AUTHORITIES IN RECENT DAYS HAVE FOCU
TAGS: PROP, PINS, LA, VM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/56ed3245-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009